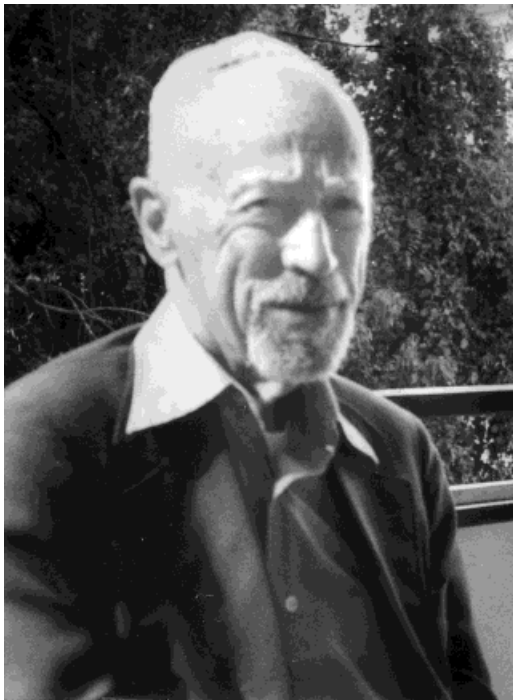


## In Memoriam: Marcus S. Goldstein (1906–1997)

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Professor Marcus S. Goldstein was born on August 22, 1906, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA. He died almost a century later in Jerusalem, Israel, on December 1, 1997. A few days before his death he expressed his desire to write biographical notes concerning the life and achievements of his closest teachers and friends: Franz Boas, Earnest A. Hooton, Wingate T. Todd, Aleš Hrdlička, Harry L. Shapiro, William M. Cobb, Lawrence J. Angel, Marion W. Krogman, Juan Comas, Dale T. Stewart and many others. Marcus remembered all of them in detail. He remembered their ideas and expressions. He even remembered their jokes.



Dr. Marcus S. Goldstein (1906–1997).

Professor Goldstein's life was multifaceted. While a young student of sociology at George Washington University, he earned a living as a timekeeper on a construction project and, later, as a taxi driver. Very soon, he fell in love with physical anthropology. His Master's degree, done under the supervision of Aleš Hrdlička, centered on Eskimo dentition. His PhD research and dissertation were on the development of the head and face, from infancy to old age, in the Jewish population of New York, while under the direction of Franz Boas.

One of the most important works realized by Professor Goldstein was related to Mexican immigrants in Texas and an anthropometric comparison with their families in Mexico. This study was inspired by Boas's works on the morphometric differences between European-born immigrants and their American-born children. Professor Goldstein began his study in 1940. The discussion on physical differences and mental capacities between human "races" was passionate. Anthropologists at the time were divided in their views on Boas's results, which related differences among human groups largely to environment. The spirit of the works of Boas, Goldstein, and many others undoubtedly are reflected in the UNESCO Statement on Race (Paris, 1967) which declares that "All men belong to the same species and are born free and equal."

As a graduate anthropologist, his activities covered many fields, including research in the Department of Orthodontia, New York University Dental College (1933–1939),

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Department of Anthropology, University of Texas (1939–1943), Office of Strategic Services in Washington, DC (1944–1946), and in the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (1946–1971). In 1971, after his retirement, Professor Goldstein and his wife, Lea, came to Israel and established themselves in Jerusalem. His “retirement” was only formal, as his activities increased to a point that influenced all aspects of physical and social anthropology in Israel.

In 1973, Professor Goldstein founded the Israel Association of Anthropology, which assembled all physical and social anthropologists in Israel. Physical anthropology, at the time, was a small chapter in the curriculum of medical schools. Social anthropology was a minor section of sociology. Most important, these two branches of anthropology were completely ignorant of each other. The Association became an important instrument and podium for discussion and understanding of the many problems and issues related to Israeli ethnic groups, cultures, immigrant adaptation, as well as ancient biological history. All of these in a country whose fossil record reaches more than one and a half million years into the past.

With the death of Marcus S. Goldstein, a whole generation has passed away, a generation consisting of pioneers in the field of physical anthropology. With a biological and sociological perspective, they permitted rationalization of the discipline, rejecting political constraints that misused biological differences among humans to justify discrimination against minority groups. His generation had to fight, during one of the darkest periods in human history, against the most abhorrent ideas of ethnic discrimination: All this in order to restore basic equal rights for all human beings! We trust that future generations of anthropologists will learn and follow the principles to which Marcus S. Goldstein was so attached.

The library of anthropology, donated to the Sackler Faculty of Medicine, Tel Aviv University, by the late Professor Marcus S. Goldstein will serve as a constant reminder of his achievements and contribution to anthropology.

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